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15 December 1955

Chief, S/COM

Requirements Covering Gaps in Intelligence Information of Postal  
and Telecommunications of the USSR

REF : a) CIA/RR Project 10.824, "Representative Table-Dollar Ratios,"  
S/COM Contribution on Communications, 15 December 1955, S.  
  
b) CIA/RR Economic Research Area, Analysts' Manual Notice,  
4 May 1955, Finishing Procedures, subject: "Transmittal  
of Gaps in Intelligence Information as Collection Require-  
ments at the Termination of Each Branch Project," S.

BACKGROUND  
(Secret)

Reference (a) states the gaps which exist in the communications system of the USSR, and also provides the necessary background concerning these gaps. Although some data is available on specific portions of the communications industry, there are many areas where data is very sparse and overall data is extremely fragmentary. The requirements set forth below attempt to cover these gaps in intelligence information. Each of the following requirements bears the classification "Secret".

REQUIREMENTS

A. Postal Service

1. What was the volume (output) of the following postal services in the most current year available and for as many preceding years as possible back to 1945?
  - a) Number of letters mailed?
  - b) Number of postal cards mailed?
  - c) Weight of packages mailed?
  - d) Number or weight of newspapers and periodicals mailed?
2. What were the total revenue figures for each of the above items for any of the years available?

B. Telephone Service

1. How many long distance telephone calls were made in each year since 1945?
2. What was the average distance of a long distance telephone call in any or all years since 1945?
3. How many private telephones were in existence in each year since 1945?
4. How many enterprise telephones were in existence in each year since 1945?
5. How are private telephones obtained and who get them?
6. What was the total revenue from long distance telephone calls for each year since 1945?
7. What was the total revenue from private telephones for each year since 1945?
8. What was the total revenue from enterprise telephones in each year since 1945?
9. How many pay telephones existed in each year since 1945?
10. What was the revenue from pay telephones for each year since 1945?

C. Telegraph Service

1. Is there a published schedule of rates for various types and lengths of telegrams? If so, what are the rates and the various divisions or classifications?
2. How many common telegrams were sent in each year since 1945? What was the average number of words per message? What was the average charge per message? What was the total revenue from common telegrams for each year since 1945?
3. How many urgent telegrams were sent in each year since 1945? What was the average number of words per message and the average charge per message? What was the total revenue from urgent telegrams for each year since 1945?
4. How many lightning telegrams were sent in each year since 1945? What was the average number of words per message and the average charge per message? What was the total revenue from lightning telegrams for each year since 1945?

5. What was the total telegraph revenue for all telegrams for each year since 1945?
6. What is the average time required to send each of the different types of telegrams (common, urgent, lightening) for various distances?

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